(b) The question of a joint defence pact with Pakistan is not under consideration. Government have taken note of the Pakistan Prime Minister's response on the subject.

Widening the Cooperation with USSR in Aviation Sector

3375. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals to widen cooperation between USSR and India in the fields of production of civil aircraft, construction of airports, training in catering and management etc.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the views of Government on various aspects of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Protocols have been signed between India and USSR for wider cooperation in the aviation sector. The areas covered are (1) facilities to be provided to Aeroflot at the Institute of Airport Management in New Delhi; (2) participation in joint ventures for Airport Terminal Building construction, flight kitchen and duty free shop at Tashkent and other airports; (3) wet-leasing of aircraft by Aeroflot to Indian Airlines; (4) joint operations by Aeroflot and Air India; (5) operation of domestic cargo services in India by IL-76 aircraft currently on charter agreement between Air India and Aeroflot; (6) operation of one way charter cargo operation from Delhi to Moscow by Air India.

Discussions were also held between the delegations of Government of India and USSR for the joint production of civil transport aircraft but views in this regard are yet to be crystallized.

Loss to flying Aircraft by Bird-hit incidents

3376. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 42 given in Rajya Sabha on the 2nd November, 1988 and state:

(a) what is the number of accidents caused by bird hits after September, 1988; and

(b) what was the total loss due to bird hit accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) There has been no accident to any aircraft due to bird-hits since September, 1988. However, there have been 66 incidents of comparatively minor nature during this period in which the estimated cost of repairs to aircraft is Rs. 11,72,885/-.

Loss suffered by Vayudoot

3377. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the cumulative loss suffered by Vayudoot during the last four years; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to rectify this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) The cumulative loss suffered by Vayudoot during the last four years amount to Rs. 10.18 crores approximately.

(b) The Government has provided adequate budgetary support for Vayudoot from time to time and assisted in securing short term inter-corporate loans. Vayudoot has also been assisted in securing concessions in landing and RNF charges, payment of sales tax on